

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to positively recite the “opening” and to correct the antecedence error noted in item 3 on page 2 of the Official Action. In addition, claims 2-8 have been amended to recite a –wireless input device– rather than a “pointing device.”

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 USC §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,476,795 (Derocher) and 6,411,281 (Sasselli) is respectfully requested on the grounds that the Derocher and Sasselli patents fail to disclose or suggest a power supply module, as originally claimed, that:

- a. carries a battery;
- b. is arranged to be inserted into an opening in the body in order to supply power from the battery to the pointing device; and
- c. is arranged to be drawn out from the opening for replacement of the battery.

As noted in the previous response, the Sasselli patent does not disclose any sort of power supply module, as claimed, but rather discloses direct insertion of batteries into an input device. This deficiency is not made up for by the Derocher patent, since the so-called “power supply module” 30 of Derocher is not actually a power supply module, but rather is a charger module which is arranged to charge reserve battery 36 and mouse battery 60 situated within the module. Charging of batteries within a module, as taught by Derocher, is exactly opposite to the claimed invention, which involves supplying power from batteries within the module to a device into which the module is inserted. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that the proposed combination of Sasalli and Derocher does not suggest the claimed invention.

According to the Examiner, the Derocher patent discloses a power supply module 30 that is drawn out for replacement of battery 36, and therefore suggests the claimed power supply module. **However, module 30 of Derocher is not a power supply module**, and therefore is not

analogous to the claimed module. Instead, as explained in col. 4, lines 16-25, when battery 36 and reserve charger 34 are included,

...the reserve battery 36 is connected to the module connector 32 to allow the portable computer 10 to charge the reserve battery 36.

The reserve battery can then be used to charge the mouse battery 60 “*even if the module 30 is not inserted into the portable computer 10:*” The reserve battery is never used to supply power to any device into which the module is inserted, as opposed to a mouse situated within the module.

Thus, in the arrangement of Derocher, charging power is supplied from computer 10 to reserve battery 36 and to mouse 50, and charging power can also be supplied from reserve battery 36 to mouse battery 50. No power is ever supplied from reserve battery 36 to outside module 30, and therefore module 30 cannot be considered to be a power supply module. Since battery 36 is not included in a module that is inserted into an input device for supplying power *from the battery* to the input device (even if computer 10 is considered to be an input device), neither battery 36 of Derocher nor module 30 can possibly correspond to the claimed power supply module.

In other words, while module 30 of Derocher contains “reserve battery” 36, reserve battery 36 does not supply any power from module 30 to a device into which module 30 is inserted, but to the contrary *receives* charging power from the device into which module 30 is inserted. Mouse 50 of Derocher actually corresponds to the mouse taught by Sasalli, which contains a regular battery 60 with no mention of a power pack. In contrast, claim 1 specifically recites that “*power-supply module is arranged to be inserted into said opening in order to supply power from said battery to said wireless input device.*”

Basically, module 30 of Derocher is simply a battery charger arranged to receive charging power from a computer for charging a reserve battery and a mouse plugged into the module. It is not a power supply, i.e., it does not supply power to any external device having an opening into which the module is inserted. Instead, module 30 of Derocher connects mouse 50 to the

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computer 10 so that batteries within the mouse (and the reserve battery 36) can be recharged. No power is supplied from reserve battery 36 to the computer 10. Instead, it is the computer into which module 30 is inserted that supplies the power, and the supply of power is to an input device contained in the module. Supply of power to an input device and reserve battery contained in a module, as described by Derocher, is not the same as supply of power from a battery within a module to an input device into which the module is inserted, as claimed.

Because the Sasalli patent teaches an input device corresponding to the device discussed in the background portion of Applicant's specification, namely one in which batteries are inserted directly into the input device rather than via a power supply module, and because the Derocher patent does not teach any sort of module that can be used to replace the batteries of Sasalli, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-8 in view of the Sasalli and Derocher patent is improper.

Having thus overcome the sole rejection made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejection and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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